

REMARKS

Claims 1 – 15 and 17 – 20 remain in the present application. Claims 1, 2, 15, 17, and 18 have been amended. Claim 16 has been cancelled.

Claim 1 stands objected to because “of” should be --if--. Claim 1 and the other independent claims have been amended to correct this inadvertent typographical error. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Claim 16 stands rejected as being allegedly directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claim 16 has been cancelled.

Claims 1 and 15 – 19 stand rejected as being allegedly unpatentable over Eguchi. The Examiner cites Column 1, lines 18 – 45 of Eguchi, which is the Description of Background Art, namely a discussion of Japanese Patent Application First Publication No. Showa 63-82875 published April 13, 1988. The Examiner states that Eguchi is deficient, in that, it fails to teach, “signaling a rejection if any of said plurality of signals is found to be invalid”. The applicants agree. However, the cited reference is also deficient, in that, it fails to teach “receiving a plurality of signals indicative of said *rear* steering angle”, emphasis added. More specifically, “in which an occurrence in failure of a steering angle sensor used in a power assisted control for the steering of *front* road wheels ...”, column 1, lines 21 – 24 of Eguchi, emphasis added. This is further supported in U.S. Patent No. 4,972,320 (which is submitted in an Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith) which is the U.S. Patent corresponding to Japanese Patent Application First Publication No. Showa 63-82875 published April 13, 1988. The Examiner is incorrect in stating that “Eguchi discloses receiving a plurality of signals indicative of the *rear* steering angle ...”, page 2, section 5 of the Office Action, emphasis added. Clearly, Eguchi’s teaching with respect to a front wheel steering assist system has no relevance to validating a rear steering angle as recited in the present invention. Therefore, reconsideration and allowance of these claims are respectfully requested.

Allowance of claim 20 and indication that claims 2 – 14 contain allowable subject matter are recognized and appreciated.

It is believed that the foregoing remarks fully comply with the Office Action.

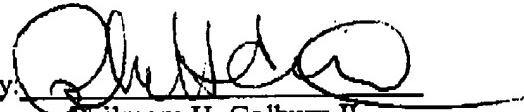
Accordingly, as the cited references neither anticipate nor render obvious that which the applicant deems to be the invention, it is respectfully requested that claims 1 – 15 and 17 – 20 be passed to issue.

If there are any additional charges with respect to this Amendment or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130 maintained by Applicants' attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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